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March 2003

Dear Colleagues:

What a winter it has been: ten snowstorms, not to mention a blizzard, heavy rains, flooding and an unprecedented number of potholes. I hope you agree that our crews have done a tremendous job despite the brutal conditions we endured.

During each storm, we had as many as 1,500 snow plows and salt trucks clearing snow and ice from the 15,000 lane miles of roadway the Northern Virginia District is responsible for in Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William and Loudoun Counties. Since more than half of those road miles are subdivision streets, we assigned 40 percent of the equipment to subdivisions at the *beginning* of each storm.

Our snow removal budget - along with our roads - have taken a beating this winter. Statewide, we budgeted \$48 million for snow removal and \$16 million for flood repairs. However, we've spent over \$100 million on snow removal and nearly \$40 million on flood repairs. Moreover, we estimate that pothole repairs will cost \$22 million - twice the yearly average. You should know that our spring repaving schedule will take place as originally planned. There may be some delay in routine maintenance activities such as mowing, tree trimming or ditch clearing but safety of Virginia's roadways will not be compromised.

On March 6, Governor Warner directed VDOT to go on a 14-day, round-the-clock emergency pothole blitz. While our crews had been working extremely hard to repair potholes, the directive allowed us to cut through the red tape and get contractors on board *fast* in order to get the job done by March 20. I hope you are already seeing a marked difference on our roadways. Please keep in mind that these repairs are temporary and with the weather warming up and the pavement thawing, some temporary patches will blow out. The temporary patches will be repaired within 48 hours. Once the winter season is over the temperatures are consistently in the 50s, crews will make permanent pothole repairs.

The public can report potholes on our Web site, [www.virginiaDOT.org](http://www.virginiaDOT.org) or by calling 703 383-VDOT (8368).

As always, let me know if I can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Tom Farley

[Thomas.Farley@VirginiaDot.org](mailto:Thomas.Farley@VirginiaDot.org)

Northern Virginia District Administrator

Virginia Department of Transportation

(703) 383-2477

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*For questions or queries please contact - [VDOTNutsAndBolts@virginiadot.org](mailto:VDOTNutsAndBolts@virginiadot.org)*

## What's New

### Route 1 Location Study Public Hearings

VDOT is studying ways to improve 27 miles of Route 1 in Prince William and Fairfax Counties. The goals of the proposed transportation improvements are to reduce traffic congestion, improve safety, enhance pedestrian access and safety and facilitate economic development. Due to the corridor's length, the study has been divided into three distinct segments. The study proposes widening Route 1 to a six-lane divided highway except for a proposed eight-lane stretch for 4.5 miles from Buckman Road to the Capital Beltway. Citizens will be able to review and comment on location options and the draft Environmental Assessment. Although no money has been allocated for land acquisition or construction, the location study process will be complete once the Commonwealth Transportation Board makes a decision on the project based on engineering and environmental data and input received at the public hearing and the Federal Highway Administration approves a Final Environmental Assessment. The first hearing, Project B, was held March 12 from Route 123 to Armistead Road.

***Plan to join us anytime between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m., with a presentation at 6 p.m.***

#### **Tuesday, March 25, 2003**

Project A - Stafford County line to Route 123 in Prince William County  
Potomac High School, 3401 Four Year Trail, Dumfries

#### **Tuesday, April 29, 2003**

Project C – Telegraph Road to the Capital Beltway in Fairfax County  
Mount Vernon High School, Alexandria

### Woodrow Wilson Bridge – Virginia Construction Information Session

***Plan to join us anytime between 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.***

#### **Wednesday, April 2, 2003**

Hampton Inn, 5821 Richmond Highway, Alexandria

Project leaders from VDOT and the general engineering consultant team will provide local residents, commuters and businesses an opportunity to learn about the remaining Virginia construction contracts that will be underway over the next five years. Learn more about the contract to "tie-in" the Virginia Beltway with the new bridge and construction of the main part of the Route 1 interchange. For more information call the Virginia project office at (703) 519-9800.

**Check out the [Dashboard](http://virginiadot.org/projects/dashboard-intro.asp)** – an on-line, one-stop information source for project status. It is a user-friendly, web-based system that provides the very latest information on construction projects that are underway. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/dashboard-intro.asp>)

### News Releases

VDOT and Fairfax County Sign Bus Shelter Memorandum of Understanding  
(<http://virginiadot.org/infoervice/news/newsrelease.asp?ID=NOVA-NV03-8>)

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Fairfax & Arlington Co.

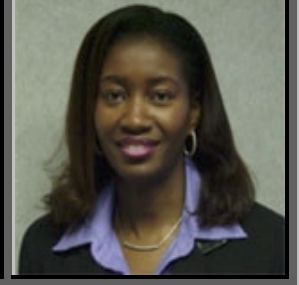


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## Projects to be Advertised for Construction Bids within the next 12 months

Note: Construction typically begins three to four months after a project is advertised.

**Beulah Street** Widen from two to four lanes between the Franconia-Springfield Parkway and Franconia Road (1.3 miles). Construction to begin spring 2003.

**Dulles Toll Road** Widen ramps from one to two lanes both to and from the Capital Beltway. Ad date: March 2003.

**Dulles Toll Road** Modify Smart Tag lanes at both Route 28 and the Main Toll Plaza. This will include upgrading toll collection and signage for Smart Tag lanes. The existing Smart Tag lane at Route 28 North will be improved to an open toll lane. Ad date: July 2003.

**Pleasant Valley Road** Straighten curves north and south of Braddock Road and north of Martins Hundred Road. Ad date: July 2003.

**Rolling Road** Build connection with Fullerton Road (.08 mile). Ad date: Jan. 2003.

**Route 1** Widen from four to six lanes from south of Lorton Road to north of Telegraph Road (1.2 miles). Ad date: July 2003.

### Route 123 Widening

- **Phase 1** – Burke Lake Road to Lee Chapel Road (2.4 miles) is under construction.
- **Phase 2** – Lee Chapel Road to Davis Drive (2.5 miles) is under construction.
- **Phase 3** – Widen from two to six lanes from Davis Drive to the Occoquan River Bridge (1.9 miles). Includes landscaping. Ad date: Dec. 2002.
- **Phase 4** – Replace two-lane bridge over the Occoquan River with a six-lane bridge and widen approaches. Ad date: July 2003.

**Springfield Interchange** Final phases (Phases 6 and 7) of project. Ad date: June 2003.  
(<http://www.springfieldinterchange.com/>)

**West Ox Road** Widen from two to four lanes from Ox Trail to Lawyers Road (1.1 mile). Ad date: Sept. 2003.

### Woodrow Wilson Bridge (Va. Projects) (<http://www.wilsonbridge.com/>)

- Build new Washington Street overpass to span wider Beltway. Begins early 2003.
- Starting in early 2003, Washington Street approaching and over the Beltway will transition from four lanes to three, with a reversible lane maintaining two lanes in the direction of dominant traffic flow (e.g. northbound in the morning).
- Build new Beltway tie-in to future bridge. Begins mid 2003.
- Build bridges over Cameron Run and Hunting Creek to line up with widened Beltway. Begins mid 2003.
- Demolish three Hunting Terrace buildings and two office buildings. Begins late 2003.
- Construct new Route 1 interchange. Begins late 2003.
- Widen Beltway between Route 1 and Telegraph. Begins late 2003.

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## Fairfax and Arlington County Projects Under Construction

**Barnsfield Road and Route 28 Interchange** Partial cloverleaf to provide access to the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum. Interchange will be open in time for the opening of the Museum in Dec. 2003.

(<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-barnsfield.asp>)

**Dulles Toll Road at Spring Hill Road** Expanding toll plaza at the westbound Spring Hill Road entrance from one lane to three. Smart Tag can be used in all three lanes. Completion, spring 2003.

([http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-dulles\\_plaza.asp](http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-dulles_plaza.asp))

**Route 28 Improvements** Under the Public-Private Partnership Act, The Clark Construction Group, Inc. and Shirley Contracting Company, LLC will design and construct six high-capacity interchanges on Route 28 in Fairfax and Loudoun counties over the next four years. (<http://www.28freeway.com/>)

**Route 123 Widening Phase 1** Widening to four lanes divided from Burke Lake Road to Lee Chapel Road (2.4 miles). Completion, end of 2003. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-rt123widening.asp>)

**Route 123 Widening Phase 2** Widening to four lanes divided from Lee Chapel Road to Davis Drive (2.5 miles). Completion, summer 2004. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-123ph2.asp>)

**Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum** Site and support work for construction of the new museum south of Dulles International Airport includes completing service roads, haul roads, taxi pad, utilities, and visitor and bus parking lots. Completion, summer 2003. (<http://www.nasm.si.edu/nasm/ext/>)

**Springfield Interchange** Construction is now focused on the Beltway between Van Dorn Street and Braddock Road. For lane closures, maps, photos and commuter options please visit [springfieldinterchange.com](http://springfieldinterchange.com).

(<http://www.springfieldinterchange.com/>)

**Van Dorn Street Safety Improvements** New sidewalks, curb and gutter, roadway lighting, business entrances, and a raised, landscaped concrete median. Completion, summer 2003.

(<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-vandorn-safety.asp>)

**Woodrow Wilson Bridge** (Va. projects) Soil strengthening and stabilization work started Dec. 2001 and will continue until mid-2004. Demolition of one Hunting Tower building and two adjacent garages began this month and will be completed in March. (<http://www.wilsonbridge.com/>)

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## Fairfax and Arlington County Projects Recently Completed

**Burke Centre Parkway** Widened from two to four lanes between Marshall Pond Road and Burke Lake Road. Improvements included dedicated left and right turn lanes, sidewalks, and a multi-purpose trail for pedestrians and bicyclists, a new drainage system and signal improvements to help traffic flow. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-burke-ctr-pkwy.asp>)

**Columbia Pike Bridge over Four-Mile Run** Replaced original bridge; widened sidewalk on south side of bridge; replaced and repaired drainage systems; constructed approach slabs. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/arlington-columbiapikebridge.asp>)

**Fairfax County Parkway** Completion of the northern section of the Fairfax County Parkway gives motorists a continuous four and six-lane highway from Route 7 in Dranesville to Beulah Street in Kingstowne. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-ctyparkway.asp>)

**Lorton Road** Traffic back-ups at the Lorton Road underpass have eased since the road was widened from one to two lanes. The 70-year-old CSX bridge over Lorton Road was replaced with a 227-foot long bridge. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-lorton.asp>)

**Lorton Road Park-and-Ride** Constructed a new 170-space lot located just east of I-95. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-lortonrd-parkride.asp>)

**Old Dominion Drive Bridge** The 50-year-old bridge over Pimmit Run Creek on Old Dominion Drive in McLean has been improved and is open to motorists. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-olddom.asp>)

**Route 28/Route 29 Interchange** Construction of a grade-separated interchange in Centreville is now complete. Now, Route 28 traffic flows uninterrupted under Route 29 and both roads have six through lanes and additional turn lanes. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-rt2829.asp>)

**Springfield Interchange Improvement Project** Phases 2 and 3, which focused on improvements to I-95, Route 644 and other local roads in Springfield, were completed in late 2001. (<http://www.springfieldinterchange.com/>)

**Stringfellow Road Park-and-Ride** Constructed a 387-space lot adjacent to the I-66 HOV Lanes. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-stringfellowp-r.asp>)

**Sydenstricker Road Park-and-Ride** Constructed 170-space lot at the corner of Sydenstricker Road and Hoopes Road, just off the Fairfax County Parkway. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-sydenstricker.asp>)

**Telegraph Road Widening** Widened from two lanes to four lanes with a 16-foot median and two four-foot bicycle lanes from Beulah Street to Route 1 (2.5 miles). (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-telegraph.asp>)

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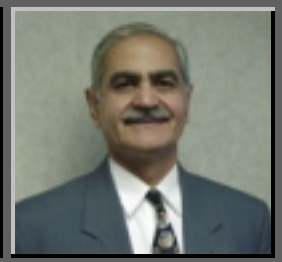
Loudoun Co.



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## Projects to be Advertised for Construction Bids within the next 12 months

Note: Construction typically begins three to four months after a project is advertised

**Old Ox Road (Route 606)** Widen from two to four lanes between Route 50 and Route 621 (.81 miles). Ad date: Dec. 2002

**Red Bud Lane (Route 1505)** Upgrade from a dirt road to a paved road from Route 1504 to one mile south of Route 1504. Construction will begin in spring 2003.

**Shelburne Glebe Road (Route 729)** Replace temporary bridge with permanent bridge over North Fork Goose Creek located .66 miles north of North Fork Road (Route 728). Ad date: May 2003

**Ticonderoga Road (Route 613)** Improve and realign intersection at Route 659. Ad date: Oct. 2003

## Loudoun County Projects Under Construction

**Loudoun Orchard Road (Route 662)** Upgrade dirt road to a paved road from intersection of Mt. Gilead Road (Route 797) to 0.38 miles South of Route 729 (1.3 miles). This is a pilot project under VDOT's new [Rural Rustic Road Program](#). Construction expected to begin in mid-April and be completed by June 2003.

**Lime Kiln Road** Upgrading from gravel to asphalt and realigning roadway to improve sight distance (2.1 miles). Completion, spring 2003. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-limekiln.asp>)

**Route 15** Safety improvements between Balls Bluff Road and White's Ferry Road (1.7 miles)). Completion, summer 2003. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt15-ballsbluff-whitesferry.asp>)

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## Loudoun County Projects Recently Completed

**Dulles North Transit Center** A 750-space commuter Park-and-Ride lot has been constructed at the Dulles Greenway and Route 606. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt606p-r.asp>)

**Route 7** Crews added an additional lane in each direction between Cedar Drive and Dranesville Road. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt7.asp>)

**Route 15** Safety improvements include widened shoulders, additional turn lanes, and raised medians. A traffic signal was installed at the intersection of White's Ferry Road and Route 15. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt15.asp>)

**Route 28** Crews widened Route 28 and added two dedicated left-turn lanes onto Route 606 in Loudoun County. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt28.asp>)

**Route 50 Bridge at Aldie** Repair work for the 180-year-old stone arch bridge on Route 50 over Little River near the Aldie Mill, in Loudoun County is complete. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-aldie.asp>)

**Route 287** VDOT crews eliminated the curve on Berlin Road to improve sight distance for motorists approaching the intersection. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt287.asp>)

**Silcott Springs Rd (Route 690)** Crews widened and repaired the bridge over Goose Creek. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-silcott.asp>)

**South Church Street** A half-mile section of South Church Street between Lovettsville and Berlin Road Turnpike was widened to improve safety. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-sthchurch.asp>)

**Taylorstown Road** VDOT upgraded from a gravel road to a paved road between Furnace Mountain Road and Wilt Store Road. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-taylorstown.asp>)

**Woodburn Road** VDOT upgraded Woodburn road from gravel to asphalt, realigning sections to improve sight distance, adding drainage, and other safety features. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-woodburn.asp>)

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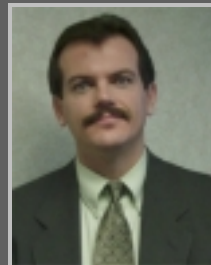


Prince William Co.



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## Projects to be Advertised for Construction Bids within the next 12 months

Note: Construction typically begins three to four months after a project is advertised.

**Dumfries Road (Route 234)** Widen from two to four lanes between Snowfall Road and Eclipse Drive (3.2 miles).  
Ad date: July 2003.

**Ingram Drive** Pave gravel road from 75 feet north of Chestnut Creek to Logmill Road (.77 miles). Ad date: July 2003.

**Route 123 Occoquan River Bridge** Replace existing bridge with new six-lane bridge and widen approaches. Ad date: July 2003.

**Route 234 Bypass** Construct sound wall adjacent to the Great Oaks Subdivision. Advertised November 2002. Construction expected to begin spring 2003.

**Wellington Road Rail Crossing near Rt. 29** Improve approach and install concrete crossing. Work by railroad to begin April 2003.

## Prince William County Projects Under Construction

**Partridge Road** Construct a pedestrian bridge over the CSX Railroad from Veterans Memorial Park to Partridge Road. Completion, fall 2003.

**Route 234 Widening** Widen from two lanes to four lanes divided from Purcell Road to Snowfall Drive (2.5 miles). Completion spring 2003. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-rt234wide2.asp>)

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## Prince William County Projects Recently Completed

**Horner Road Park-and-Ride Lot Expansion** The largest commuter lot in Virginia, with 2,267 spaces added by VDOT and the county. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-horner-ParkRide.asp>)

**Kettle Run Bridge** Constructed new bridge and approaches over Kettle Run. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-kettlerunbr.asp>)

**I-95 at Route 123 Park-and-Ride** Commuters can now access this 580-space lot from I-95 and exit directly onto Route 123. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-I95-123.asp>)

**I-95 Bridge over Route 619** The 36-year-old north and southbound bridges over Route 619 were replaced with new bridges and shoulders wide enough to accommodate future travel lanes. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-I95rt619.asp>)

**I-95 Bridges over Quantico Creek** The 40-year-old north and southbound bridges over Quantico Creek were reconstructed with new bridge piers and widened shoulders. The bridges are wide enough to accommodate future travel lanes. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-I95quantico.asp>)

**I-95/Route 234 Interchange** The former diamond interchange is now a partial cloverleaf with loops in the northeast and southwest quadrants. The Route 234 bridge over I-95 has been widened and the acceleration and deceleration lanes on I-95 were lengthened. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-I95rt234.asp>)

**I-95/Route 234 Interchange** The former diamond interchange is now a partial cloverleaf with loops in the northeast and southwest quadrants. The Route 234 bridge over I-95 has been widened and the acceleration and deceleration lanes on I-95 were lengthened. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-I95rt234.asp>)

**Route 29/234 Intersection Safety Improvements** Safety Improvements in the Manassas National Battlefield Park included adding left-turn lanes to each leg of the intersection, improving sight distance on Route 234, installing a pedestrian bridge, a crosswalk and traffic signals, and re-timing traffic signals. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-rt29-rt234-safety.asp>)

**Route 234 Bypass** Construction of a 10-mile, four-lane bypass west of Manassas. The bypass runs from I-66 to Brentsville Road where it connects with existing Route 234. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-rt234byp.asp>)

**Route 234 Widening** Route 234 was widened from a two-lane roadway to a four-lane, divided highway. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-rt234wide.asp>)

**Route 234/Route 1 Park-and Ride** Constructed a 360-space lot near Route 1-95. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-I95-123.asp>)

**Manassas Bypass Wetlands** VDOT created a 24-acre wetland site with 24 varieties of plant life. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-wetlands.asp>)

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## Major Transportation Studies

### Tri-County Parkway Location Study

(<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/tcp.asp>)

VDOT is evaluating a new north/south transportation link to connect the City of Manassas with I-66 and the Dulles Corridor. More than 200 citizens attended informational meetings held in Loudoun, Prince William and Fairfax counties during December 2002. The study team shared preliminary alternatives with the public and sought their input.

### Capital Beltway Study

(<http://project1.parsons.com/capitalbeltway/>)

The draft environmental impact statement for improvements to the 14-mile section between the Springfield Interchange and the American Legion Bridge was approved by the Federal Highway Administration in March 2002. More than 1,000 citizens attended the public hearings held on May 28, 29 and 30, 2002. VDOT is developing a recommendation to be presented to the Commonwealth Transportation in early 2003.

### I-66 Multimodal Transportation and Environmental Study

(<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/studynova-rt66.asp>)

VDOT and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation are identifying possible highway, rail and bus improvements along the 24-mile corridor from the Capital Beltway to Route 15 at Haymarket. The Environmental Impact Study is expected to be complete in 2004. Public information meetings will be held May 13, 14 and 15, 2003.

### Route 1 Location Study

(<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/studynova-rt1.asp>)

VDOT is developing environmental assessments for improving the 27-mile corridor from the Stafford County line to the Capital Beltway. The study is divided into three sections and public hearings will be held in the spring of 2003 on each of those sections. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/studynova-rt1.asp>)

### Route 50 Traffic Calming Project

(<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/studynova-rt50.asp>)

On February 20, 2003, VDOT approved the major design features for the Route 50 Traffic Calming project in Fauquier and Loudoun Counties. VDOT and the Route 50 Traffic Calming Task Force are developing construction plans that will implement the concepts to calm traffic, enhance the scenic beauty and historic nature of the area and provide for enhanced pedestrian safety and accessibility along the corridor.

### Western Transportation Corridor

(<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/study-wtc-default.asp>)

The purpose of the study is to evaluate the need for and effects of transportation improvement options in the Western Washington, D.C. metropolitan region. The Study Team is identifying preliminary corridors and evaluating travel demand within these corridors; modeling 2030 travel demand within corridors; and preparing a Transportation Demand Management alternative. The study team will present preliminary corridors and the associated demand volumes for each at public meetings to be held during 2003.

### Non-VDOT Studies:

#### Dulles Corridor Rapid Transit

(<http://www.dullestransit.com/>)

The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation and WMATA are working with the Federal Transit Administration to develop the scope of work for the Final Environmental Impact Statement and to develop and acceptable request to enter into Preliminary Engineering.

#### Capital Beltway Rail Feasibility Study

(<http://www.drpt.state.va.us/projects/previous/bwr.asp>)

Study completed in April 2001 by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

#### Manassas National Battlefield Park Bypass Study

(<http://www.battlefieldbypass.com>)

The Federal Highway Administration and National Park Service are developing and evaluating alternatives to allow for closing portions of Route 29 and 234 in the Park. A public workshop was held Dec. 12, 2002 for citizens to learn more about the project and provide input.

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